

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~Apparatus~~ for cryogenic treatments, for use in the medical or paramedical field as well as for the cosmetic field, comprising a microapplicator (2) having a bore diameter of 20 to 120  $\mu\text{m}$  supplied with a gas flow from which all foreign particles bigger than 3  $\mu\text{m}$  have been eliminated.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~Apparatus of~~ according to claim 1, additionally comprising ~~characterised in that it comprises~~ a cartridge (8) of purified condensed gas from which all solid materials have been eliminated.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~Apparatus of~~ according to claim 1, additionally comprising ~~or 2 characterised in that it comprises~~ a cartridge containing (8) ~~with~~  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ .

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~Apparatus of~~ according to claim[[s]] 1, wherein ~~to 3 characterised in that the~~ microapplicator (2) comprises a replaceable filter (14) arranged to retain particles superior to 3  $\mu\text{m}$  ~~and preferably superior to 1  $\mu\text{m}$~~ .

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~Apparatus of~~ according to claim 4, wherein ~~characterised in that the~~ microapplicator (2) comprises a replaceable filter (14) arranged to retain particles between 1 and 100  $\mu\text{m}$  ~~and preferably between 3 and 60  $\mu\text{m}$~~  in function of the said bore diameter.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~Apparatus of~~ according to claim 4, wherein ~~or 5 characterised in that the~~ filter (14) is located in or on the microapplicator (2).

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~Apparatus of claim according to any of the claims 1 to 6,~~ wherein ~~characterised in that the~~ microapplicator (2) consists of a synthetic material ~~such as the polycarbonate or a resin such as PEEK~~ to reduce the phenomena of icing and the clogging-up of said microapplicator.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~Apparatus of claim~~ according to claims 1 to 7, ~~characterised in that it further~~ comprising: ~~comprises~~

a pipe (10);

a flow regulator device for regulation of the flow in the said pipe (10); and

a valve ~~(3)~~, said valve being disposed perpendicularly to said pipe ~~(10)~~ between said device and the said microapplicator (2) and having three distinct possible positions under the effect of a mechanical or electrical control, comprising:

a first position where a longitudinal pipe (9) is created, which allows the flow of gas from the device to the microapplicator ~~(2)~~;

a second position where the gas flow is blocked; and

a third position which permits to the gas present in the cartridge (8) to escape.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A process ~~Process~~ for interrupting a gaseous flow in a medical device, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

providing a cylindrical valve (3) comprising a transverse pipe (9) which permits gas flow from a cartridge (8) to a microapplicator (2), said valve being perpendicular to the direction of the gas flow; and

providing a mechanical or electrical actuator ~~means~~ to permit upward and downward movement of said valve and providing O-rings for imperviousness.

10. **(Currently Amended)** The process ~~Process of~~ for interrupting a gaseous flow in a medical device, according to claim 9, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the cylindrical valve comprises a vent (3) ~~has means~~, which allows escape of residual gas.

11. **(Currently Amended)** A microapplicator ~~Microapplicator~~ (2) for the an apparatus according to any of claim ~~the claims~~ 1, wherein the imcroapplicator ~~to 8~~, characterised ~~in that it~~ comprises a mounted removable filter.

12. **(Currently Amended)** A method for ~~Use of the apparatus according to any of the claims 1 to 8 for the cosmetic~~ treatment sector and/or dermatological treatment of the skin, comprising use of the apparatus of Claim 1.

13. **(Currently Amended)** A method ~~Use of the apparatus according to any of the claims 1 to 8 for gynaecological or urological~~ treatment ~~treatments~~, comprising use of the apparatus of claim 1.

14. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein all foreign particles bigger than 1  $\mu\text{m}$  have been eliminated from the gas flow.

15. **(New)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the microapplicator comprises a replaceable filter arranged to retain particles larger than 1  $\mu\text{m}$ .

**Int. Appl. No.** : PCT/BE2002/00173  
**Int. Filing Date** : November 18, 2002

16. (New) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the microapplicator comprises a replaceable filter arranged to retain particles between 3 and 60  $\mu\text{m}$  in function of the said bore diameter.

17. (New) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said synthetic material is a polycarbonate.

18. (New) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said resin is PEEK.